



Fact Sheet

The Office of Child Labor, Forced Labor, and Human Trafficking

The Bureau of International Labor Affairs' (ILAB) Office of Child Labor, Forced Labor, and Human Trafficking (OCFT) has been in existence since 1993. OCFT works to reduce the prevalence of the worst forms of child labor, forced labor, and human trafficking worldwide through research, policy engagement, and technical cooperation.

Research and Reporting

- OCFT's reports are carried out under Congressional mandate and Presidential directives. These include the Trade and Development Act of 2000, Executive Order 13126, the Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2005, and the Food, Conservation and Energy Act of 2008 ("Farm Bill").
- OCFT identifies goods that may have been produced by child or forced labor to encourage actions to improve the conditions under which goods we consume are produced.
- OCFT reports inform policymakers, consumers, and business, labor and advocacy groups on the incidence and nature of child and forced labor and efforts underway to address these problems.
- In 2012, OCFT released "Reducing Child Labor and Forced Labor: A Toolkit for Responsible Businesses," a free, comprehensive online resource specifically targeted to assist companies in combating these labor abuses in their supply chains. The Toolkit can be accessed at: <http://www.dol.gov/childlaborbusiness toolkit>.
- Through research grants and contracts on a wide variety of topics, OCFT supports an expanding global knowledge

The International Labor Organization (ILO) estimates that 168 million children are engaged in child labor, of which about 85 million participate in hazardous labor that by its nature can have adverse effects on their safety, health, and moral development.

The ILO has produced new global estimates placing the number of people trapped in forced labor at 21 million, including 6 million children forced into labor or sexual exploitation.

The worst forms of child labor include slavery or practices similar to slavery; the trafficking of children; the use of children in armed conflict or prostitution and pornography; the use of children for illicit activities, particularly drug production and trafficking, and hazardous work.

DID YOU KNOW?

base on child and forced labor. This knowledge base is helping to fill the longstanding lack of reliable information on the extent of child labor and forced labor worldwide.

Policy and Strategic Engagement

- OCFT assists in the development and implementation of U.S. government policy on international child labor, forced labor, and human trafficking issues. OCFT also engages strategically with governments, business, labor, and civil society groups to implement sustainable models to reduce exploitive labor practices.
- OCFT conducts and funds research, assists in the development and implementation of U.S. government policy, and funds an international technical cooperation program to eliminate worst forms of child labor, forced labor, and human trafficking internationally.

Technical Cooperation

- OCFT funds projects that use an integrated approach that includes increasing access to education for children and supporting sustainable livelihood opportunities for adults that help families overcome dependence on their children's labor to meet basic needs.

Capacity Building Activities

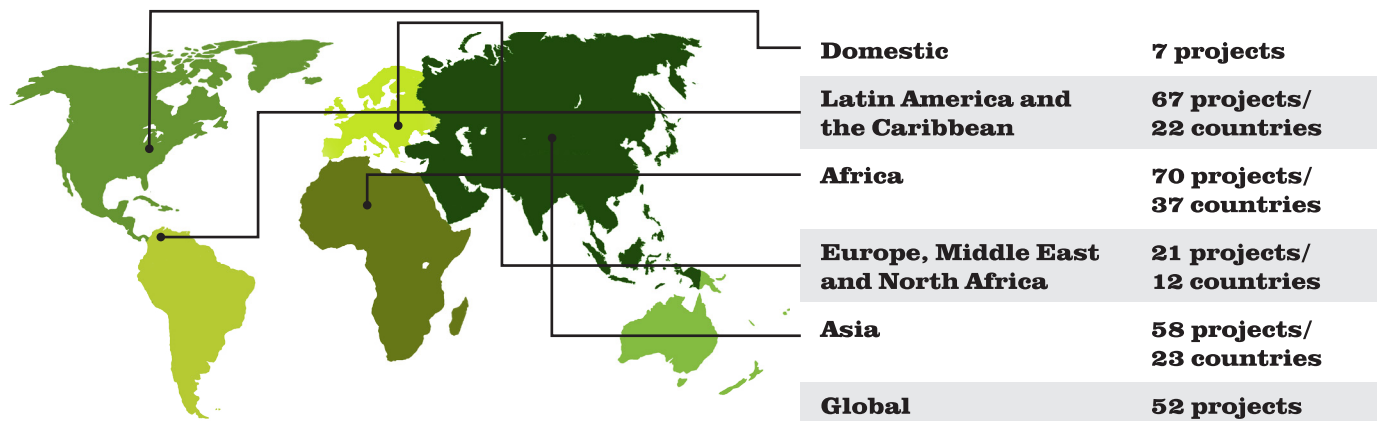
- OCFT projects train labor inspectors and law enforcement officials. They also help develop community-based, child labor monitoring systems, including child labor monitoring and enforcement efforts in the supply chains of key national sectors.

Our Accomplishments

- Since 1995, ILAB has funded more than 270 projects to combat child labor in over 90 countries and worked with more than 60 organizations. ILAB projects provide direct services to children and their families and help build national and local capacity to address child labor. As a result of these efforts, approximately 1.7 million children have been rescued from child labor through the provision of education and training services, and livelihood support for their families.
- ILAB projects also play a major role in building capacity in countries at the national, district, and community level. ILAB projects train labor inspectors and law enforcement officials. They also

AT A GLANCE

17 Years of USDOL-Funded Child Labor Technical Cooperation Projects



- OCFT projects focus on geographic areas and sectors with a high incidence of child labor, such as commercial agriculture, mining, and small-scale manufacturing, and worst forms of child labor such as forced labor, trafficking, and commercial sexual exploitation.
- OCFT works with a wide range of implementing partners, including international organizations and aid agencies, for-profit firms, and faith-based and local non-governmental organizations.

help develop community-based, child labor monitoring systems, including child labor monitoring and enforcement efforts in the supply chains of key national sectors.

- OCFT has increased the knowledge base on child labor and forced labor through its research and publication of over 35 major reports these issues. These range from country-specific reports on child labor laws and regulations to thematic reports on topics such as children in armed conflict and the impact of consumer labeling on child labor. OCFT has also funded extramural research on child labor and forced labor through academic and independent research organizations.